

D. REMARKS

Applicants are concurrently filing a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in order to have the Examiner consider the references submitted with the concurrently filed Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statements filed on November 13, 2002 and October 30, 2002, as evidenced by the initialed forms 1449.

Claims 1-18 are all the claims now pending in this application. Claims 17 and a8 are added and do not include new matter. The claims are amended to further clarify the invention and not to overcome the rejection. The Office Action has been reviewed and, in view of the foregoing amendments and following comments, reconsideration and allowance of all the rejected claims are respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Burg, *et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 6,456,699). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection on the following basis.

Independent claims 1 and 9 essentially recite the feature of enabling the at least one user to subscribe to at least one voice service, wherein each user specifies at least personalized content associated with the at least one voice service, among other things. In an exemplary embodiment, selecting the personalized content may include selecting the type of voice (male or female) and language (English, German, Spanish, etc.) that will be used to deliver the content of the voice service or the location (i.e., telephone

number) to which the content of the voice service will be delivered (see page 17, lines 13-17 of the specification). The types of variables are determined by a set of style properties that are unique to each recipient of a voice service (see page 17, lines 17-19 of the specification). In a further embodiment, the user may select the duration (e.g., the starting and stopping dates) of the subscription to at least one voice service (see page 74, lines 1-2 of the specification). The start date may be a base line for the scheduled calculation, while the end date may indicate when the voice service will no longer be sent (see page 74, lines 1-2 of the specification).

Burg et al. is directed to a system and method of enabling retail customers to order items through an on-line web-based application or an interactive voice response (IVR) application having a same menu that is derived from a common database (see col. 4, lines 47-67). In particular, Burg et al. recognizes that "businesses are willing to invest the expense required to establish and maintain structured databases for an on-line electronic sales presence on the Web, but do not have IVR for their telephone based catalog ordering" (see Burg et al., col. 4, lines 51-54). To this end, Burg et al. discloses "providing a system and method to analyze the on-line Web sales database and menu structure and adapting that database and menu structure to build an IVR system" (see Burg et al., col. 5, lines 54-57) and using a "structured IVR database as a basis for automatic generation of an on-line Web sales database" (see Burg et al., col. 9, lines 4-6). Burg et al., however, does not disclose enabling a retail customer to subscribe to the on-line web-based application or an interactive voice response

application. Rather, the retail customer simply accesses these applications when they have an urge to use them.

Furthermore, Burg et al. discloses that a "system 79 allows an operator, with access to computer 84 and telephone 87, to monitor the automated translation of the Web menu structure to an IVR menu structure with prompts and responses" (see Burg et al., col. 8, lines 12-16) and that "the menu structures for IVR telephone sales and the on-line Web sales may be similar or identical" (see Burg et al., col. 5, lines 49-50). Thus, Burg et al. does not support enabling users to specify personalized content associated with the on-line web-based application or an interactive voice response application.

The Examiner alleges that Burg et al. discloses "a subscription interface that enables the at least one user to subscribe to at least one service that can output personalized content (84 Fig. 5 and col. 9, lines 24-61)" (see page 3, lines 2-5 of the February 26, 2003 final Office Action). As discussed above, Figure 5 is directed to a system 79 for enabling an *operator*, with access to computer 84 and telephone 87, to monitor the automated translation of the Web menu structure to an IVR menu structure with prompts and responses. However, there is no support for the Examiner's assertion that Fig. 5 enables a *user* to subscribe to anything. Furthermore, the portion of Burg et al. cited by the Examiner (i.e., col. 9, lines 24-61) is directed to using a structured IVR database as a basis for automatic generation of an on-line Web sales database. Therefore, again, there is no support for the Examiner's assertion that this portion of Burg et al. enables a *user* to subscribe to anything.

Since Burg et al. neither discloses nor suggests the invention claimed in independent claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-8 or the invention claimed in independent claim 9 and its dependent claims 10-16, these claims clearly are not anticipated by Burg et al.'s disclosure. For the foregoing reason, reconsideration and allowance of these claims are requested.

New claims 17 and 18 are added to further define features of the invention taught at least at pages 5 and 67 of the specification.

Applicants believe that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number provided.

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Respectfully submitted,



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